RISBY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Risby Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Thursday 14th May 2015

PARISH COUNCILLORS PRESENT: **D Abrey (Chairman),) J Gray, S Gray, C Sutton, I Turner, J Read**

ALSO PRESENT: **Mrs J Ince (Clerk), County Councillor Rebecca Hopfsenberger, District Councillor Susan Glossop, Darren Matthews and Sarah Ellis (Risby Village Hall)**

IN ATTENDANCE: **1 member of the public**

APOLOGIES: **Apologies were received from S Smith and Mr and Mrs Shuttler**

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

1. **Approval of the minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 1st May 2014**
The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman of Risby Parish Council, Mr D Abrey.

2. **Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team - see written report**
There have been 47 crimes recorded in Risby in 2014/15 an increase from 37 in 2013/14. The detection rate has decreased from 30% to 24%.

3. **Written report from County Councillor Becky Hopfsenberger**
Councillor Hopfsenberger spoke about the following:
- Suffolk County Council made 38.2 million pounds of savings last year
- SCC helped out Norfolk by taking 40 000 tonnes of waste to their Energy from Waste facility at Gt Blakenham which would have gone into landfill
- Risby's broadband upgrade. Funding has been approved for remainder of Risby
- SCC has invested 1.5 million in apprenticeship schemes
- Highways has performed badly. The Western Area office has been under a huge amount of pressure. Hopefully there will be improvements now that Colin Noble has been appointed as Head of Highways. His priority is to sort out the problems with Highways contracts. She suggested having a walkabout with D Abrey to look at any outstanding Highways issues.
- She will be working with Risby Primary School following the School Organisation Review. They have requested a larger school hall and would also like to look at the sustainability of the school in the long run.
- In next couple of months, she will be organising quarterly meetings with each of her parishes. The first one will be on Highways. She will look at issues of communality in the different parishes, for example speeding.
- She spoke about the proposed West Suffolk Hub (waste transfer station). Landowners were approached about possible sites. The site proposed is Hollow Road site near Fornham which she is opposed to. Other suggested sites were south of Risby (Gittus's land), but that is not viable as the infrastructure is not in place. Another suggestion was Tut Hill, but this has also been discounted. Rougham Hill is another possibility as is the Suffolk Business Park between Bury St Edmunds and Rougham. SCC and SEBC have received a large number of objections to the Hollow Road site and have agreed to look at other sites. There is no timescale as yet. Once the depot moves from behind West Suffolk House, the idea is to create a Public Service Village on that site.
- A question was raised about the A14 as there is a lot of litter along it in the western area. Becky Hopfsenberger said that this is the responsibility of the Borough Council.

Councillors made her aware of some of the outstanding Highways issues and some new ones. The clerk agreed to e-mail her a list.

4. **Borough Councillor's Report**
Susan Glossop introduced herself. She was elected unopposed which is disappointing. She lives in Flempton and is well aware of the problems in villages. She promised to work hard for the parishes she represents.

5. **Written report from former Borough Councillor Helan Levack**

6. **Village Hall report by the Chairman of the Trustees Darren Matthews**
Darren Matthews spoke about:
- Improvements to the external appearance of the grounds
- Improvements to the kitchen
- Fund raising for the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). £5,000 has been raised so far. They have received good support from the school, pre-school and local clubs
- They have employed someone to apply for grants for the MUGA on their behalf
- The community garden should be completed by the end of May and the petanque course by the middle of June

- The VH is on target to take more income than it did last year.

7. Risby Charities Financial Report (see written report)

Balance b/f	£1,950
Income	£14,500
Expenditure	£14,740

Balance at year end: £1,710

8. Risby Parish Council's Annual Report - see written report

Parish Council Chairman, Mr Derrick Abrey, presented his report. He spoke about the following:

- Outstanding Highways issues and the poor performance of Highways
- The Village Green sump which should have been cleared by Highways in 2013 but in the end was cleared by a local contractor at a considerably reduced cost
- Planning applications in Risby. The Quay's Barn development was approved as was an application for 2 Orchard Close which went through on appeal. He recommended that residents raise concerns about planning issues before a decision has been made.
- The request for a change of speed limit in Newmarket Road and a pavement.
- The Parish Plan which is now complete.
- The Council's application for VAS which is ongoing
- The annual tree survey and associated works
- The village greens which look great thanks to the current grass cutting contractor

The Chairman also thanked Cynthia Boreham for cleaning the bus shelters, , Steve Lumley for cutting the grass round Welham Lane Pond, his fellow councillors and the clerk for all her hard work and support.

9. Financial Report - see written report

The clerk, Mrs J Ince, presented her report.

10. Any other issues or concerns raised by members of the public

One resident raised the subject of the bus service. Smaller villages like Hengrave and Flempton get a half hourly bus service to Bury. Risby only has school buses and a bus at 10am. There is no bus service on Saturday morning, even though the 10am bus was very popular. You can get a bus at 12pm but you cannot get back until 5pm.

Becky Hopfsenberger agreed to speak to Phil Gill to see if any of the buses could come through Risby from Flempton and Hengrave.

The meeting closed at 9.00p.m

Signed …… Dated……..